

CLASSIFICATION

SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

REPORT NO.

TOPIC 1. SSB Unit near Ostrov

2. Technical Battalions in Svata Dobrotiva and Tisice

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT prior to 18 November 1951

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DATE PREPARED 10 April 1952

REFERENCES

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REMARKS

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SSB Unit near Ostrov.

1. Prior to 18 November 1951, the penal camp north of Ostrov (N 51/K 50) was guarded by an SSB guard unit of about 200 men. Officers of this unit wore a service cap with a black visor having a red piping around the upper rim and a red band with an emblem; a khaki tunic with red patches on the turned-down collar and red-bordered gold epaulets. The tunic was single-breasted and had gold buttons showing two crossed arms. The breast and side patch pockets also fastened with gold buttons. The dark-krown shirt was worn with a dark-brown tie. The belt was brown and had a silver buckle with two tongues and a brown crossbelt. Trouser or breeches were worn with black lace-shoes or jackboots. NCOs and EM wore the same uniform as officers, but had a field cap with the emblem and wore narrow brown-bordered red epaulets with silver stars as rank insignia. Prior to August 1951, when the red service color was introduced, the personnel of the guard unit wore light-blue service color like the SSB personnel committed for police duty. They carried pistols in brown leather holsters and, on guard duty, submachine guns with straight box magazine.

Technical Battalion No 52 in Svata Dobrotiva.

2. Prior to 27 October 1951, Technical Battalion No 52 in Svata Dobrotiva (N 50/L 34) was subordinate directly to the Ministry of National Defense in Prague. Detachments were in Lazne Kynzvart (N 51/P 56), Zoch near Plzen (N 50/L 54), Nove Straseci (N 51/I 39) and Svata Dobrotiva. Staff Captain Bedrich Toupalik was the commanding officer of the battalion and Staff Captain Palkovic (fm) was political officer. About 1,000 recruits were inducted into the battalion on 21 March 1951.
3. The unit in Lazne Kynzvart numbered 70 men who worked in the saw mill and hauled wood to construct tent camps.
4. The unit in Svata Dobrotiva built a troop camp of about 60 wooden barracks in Nove Straseci, constructed targets on an artillery range near Jince (N 50/L 45) and erected an ammunition depot about 5 km south of Strasice (N 50/L 34).

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Technical Battalion No 32 in Litvinov.

5. Technical Battalion No 32 in Litvinov (N 51/F 13) was subordinate directly to the Ministry of National Defense in Prague until 5 March 1951. Detachments were in Dolni and Horni Jiretin (N 51/F 13) and in Hrdlovska (N 51/F 23) and Bilina (N 51/F 23). Each of these units numbered about 250 men who worked in the neighboring mines. About 80 percent were Czechs and 20 percent were Slovaks.

General Information.

6. A company with the designation C of a light AAA regiment, whose headquarters was located in the Na Pohorelec Barracks in Prague-Hradcany, was billeted in the Ursulské Barracks, the former Ursuline Monastery, until 12 November 1950. Staff Captain Plsek (fmu) was the regimental commander. *

7. The band personnel of the guard of the Hradschin Castle and personnel with pulmonary diseases from a military hospital were also billeted in the Urselske Barracks.

8. The military engineer academy (Vojenska Inzonyrska Akademie) (VIA) was located in the Na Pchorelec Barracks prior to October 1950. After the removal of the academy the installation quartered a searchlight and radar unit from Hradec Kralove (O 52/C 71). *

9. A column of more than 50 T-34 tanks and about 30 SP guns was seen moving on the road from Strasice to Simec in March and April 1951.

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10. Comment. Previous information indicated that the 151st AAA Regt was quartered in the Na Pchorelec Barracks in Prague and that the 181st AAA Bn was quartered in Hradec Kralove.

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